

3. (amended) A catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas comprising:

a precious metal catalyst; and

a co-catalyst for purifying an exhaust gas including a composite oxide including (a) cerium; and (b) at least one element selected from the group consisting of zirconium, yttrium, strontium, barium and a rare-earth element supported on a particulate aluminum support;

wherein a specific surface area of the co-catalyst after sintering is not less than 40 m<sup>2</sup>/g, an oxygen storage capacity at 400 °C is not less than 10 μmols/g, and an oxygen storage capacity at 700 °C is not less than 100 μmols/g.

---